

AN ELOQUENT HOOSIER GIRL.

Miss E. Jean Nelson, of Greencastle, Ind., is the first of her sex to win the championship for college oratory. It is a honor indeed.

On states contended at this, the nineteenth inter-collegiate oratorical contest; each was represented by the orator who had won the honor, and Miss Nelson was the unanimous choice of the six judges for first place. Mr. G. H. Geyer, of the Wesleyan university, Delaware, O., receiving the second honor.



MISS E. J. NELSON.

Miss Nelson represented De Pauw university directly, Greencastle being her home, and the state generally and the students of De Pauw manifested their pride and joy with cannon, bells, songs and cheers in the most enthusiastic manner. She is a tall and graceful lady of nineteen, with short hair, a pleasing, intellectual face, soft and winning voice and an earnestness in delivery that carries with it a convincing impression of her sincerity.

Her theme was "Industrial Freedom," and her criticisms on all forms of paternalism, though rather sharp and aimed squarely at such organizations as the Knights of Labor and Farmers' Alliance, and indirectly at protection and other forms of government interference, was received with great applause. Her main objection to such policies was that they hindered the development of self-reliance and individual forethought. Mr. Geyer spoke immediately after Miss Nelson, and was evidently handicapped from the start, but he dealt with "The Optimism of History" so forcibly as to win honors.

The honor is not a little heightened by the high standing of the judges. They were: On thought and composition—President P. B. Angell, University of Michigan; Chief Justice H. B. Elliott, of Indiana, and Hon. John M. Thurston, of Nebraska. On delivery—Hon. A. H. Young, of Minneapolis; ex-Governor William Larrabee, of Iowa, and Horace Dalton, D. D., of Chicago.

The Viking Ship.

Liberal subscriptions have been made by the people of Norway toward the fund for building and sending a Viking ship across to be exhibited at the World's fair. It is intended to row and sail the vessel the entire distance. Not less than thirty rowers will be required to man the ship. It is intended, however, as far as possible to accept the services of none but educated men, who may be able to take part in the compilation of an account of the voyage. Another literary project in connection with the interesting experiment is the issue of a pamphlet on the Norwegian Viking ship and the discovery, in A. D. 1000, by the Viking Leif the Fortunate, of Vinland, the chief settlement of the ancient Norsemen in America, a territory comprising the present states of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The Viking ship is described as a memorial of the days in which Leif Erikson was the first European to set his foot on American soil. The pamphlet on the Viking ship will also contain a brief account of the Norway of today. It will be published both in Europe and America immediately after the ship starts. It is hoped that the proceeds of the national subscription and of the sales of the two books mentioned above will leave a surplus, which will be devoted to a home for aged Norwegian sailors similar to the well known Sailors' Snug Harbor in New York.

Senator Vilas, of Wisconsin.

Senator and ex-Postmaster General William Freeman Vilas holds his place as the favorite son of the Wisconsin Democracy, although his political opponents are fond of saying that his success was a pure accident. If so, it was one of those accidents liable to occur at any time in a state with a large foreign born population. There was a school law passed which Lutherans and Catholics did not like—the result was the disappearance of a big Republican majority, the retirement of the able and popular John C. Spooner from the United States senate and the accession of Mr. Vilas.



HON. W. F. VILAS.

While not a humorist himself, Senator Vilas is the cause of considerable humor in others, chiefly by reason of his supreme confidence in his party and his success. He was so confident of President Cleveland's re-election that he made his arrangements for remaining in Washington, and as to Wisconsin it is only in his most desponding moods that he admits the possibility of a doubt. He was born July 9, 1840, in Chelsea, Vt., where his father was a judge and prominent Democrat, and the family traces its ancestry by an unbroken record to Richard de Vilas, a French hero in the Crusades.

How Ancient Dyes Were Secured.

Two kinds of boring sea snails supplied in ancient times the most famous of all dyes, known as Tyrian purple, which was considered too splendid to be worn by any but kings and nobles. One pound of wool dyed with it was worth \$175, the process by which it was extracted being very tedious and six pounds of dye liquor being required for staining a pound of wool. The liquor was procured by placing the very small shells in a mortar and crushing them. To this the animals extracted from the larger shells were added, as well as certain proportions of urine and water in which the snails had been allowed to putrefy. In the mixture thus compounded the cloth or wool to be dyed was soaked, being afterward exposed to light. Chemists say that by this process there was effected a transformation of uric acid into purpuric acid, termed for short "murexide," because one of the two species of snails used was the murex. The other species was what is known as the purpura.

The murex and purpura were mixed in the process in the proportion of two to one. Fabrics thus dyed had a very surprising and beautiful effect of color, presenting metallic green reflections from one point of view and in others showing brown and purple tints. Chemists for some time imagined that the iridescence of the feathers of humming birds and peacocks was caused by a substance of the nature of murexide, but it is known now that these brilliant hues are occasioned by a structure of the feathers which breaks up the light. Murexide is now obtained from guano as well as from mollusks.—Interview in Washington Star.

Reckless Waste of Flowers.

The extravagant use of flowers in fashionable circles is almost reckless. Evidently the tender feeling of the late Lord Lytton toward the lovely blossoms has little counterpart. "What," said he, "have the flowers done that they should be consigned to graves and vaults?" And, respecting his wishes, Lady Lytton permitted not the smallest rosebud nor tiniest violet to be placed in his coffin.

Costly and beautiful boxes and baskets of flowers are sent to sick friends, to be carefully banished from the sick-room and waste their sweetness unnoticed and unappreciated anywhere; at every feast and function flowers are everywhere, and are often glanced at only to estimate their cost; some aesthetic hostesses, in lieu of bowls and vases scattered through the rooms, strew the flowers loosely about without water to revive their drooping heads, and in consequence they quickly fade and die. One even went so far as to toss them on the divans and throw them over the rugs for seated and tramping guests to bruise out their delicate fragrance. Could anything be more barbarous? To real flower lovers this wasteful profusion approaches a sin.—Her Point of View in New York Times.

The Scorpion's Wonderful Ear.

I have studied the habits of the scorpion for many years, and have often noticed how very sensitive scorpions are to the most delicate sound, musical or otherwise. Under the thorax the scorpion has two comblike appendages, which are the antennae (pectinate). It is pretty well settled by physiologists and entomologists that in insects the antennae represent the organs of hearing. These delicate structures are easily affected by the vibrations of sound, and there can be no doubt whatever that they are also affected by sounds quite inaudible to the human ear.

The slightest vibration of the atmosphere, from any cause whatever, at once puts in motion the delicate structures which compose the antennae, to which organs insects owe the power of protecting themselves against danger, as well as the means of recognizing the approach of one another.—London Spectator.

What May Be Read from Nails.

A person of broad finger nails is of gentle nature, timid and bashful. Those whose nails grow into the flesh at the points or sides are given to luxury. A white mark on the nail speaks misfortune. Persons with very pale nails are subject to much infirmity of the flesh and persecution by neighbors and friends. People with narrow nails are ambitious and quarrelsome. Lovers of knowledge and liberal sentiment have round nails. Indolent people have generally fleshy nails. Small nails indicate littleness of mind, obstinacy and conceit. Melancholy persons are distinguished by their pale or lead colored nails and choleric, martial men, delighting in war, have red and spotted nails.—Worcester Light.

The Average Life Is Thirty-eight Years.

The annual mortality of the entire human race amounts, roughly speaking, to 33,000,000 persons. This makes the average deaths per day over 91,000, being at the rate of 3,730 an hour, or 62 people every minute of the day and night the year round. A fourth of the race die before completing their eighth year, and one-half before the end of the seventeenth year, but the average duration of life is about thirty-eight years. Not more than one person in 100,000 lives to be one hundred.—Exchange.

A Good Lung Exercise.

Hold head up, shoulders back and chest out; inflate the lungs slowly through the nose until they are brimful; hold until you have counted ten, without opening your lips; exhale quickly till your lungs are as nearly empty of the bad air as it is possible to get them. Repeat same exercise, trying to hold the lungs full while counting twenty. Try it again and see if you can hold your breath half a minute. Finish with three or four deep, long drawn inspirations.—Nature.

The Wrong Prescription.

A Connecticut woman sent her little son to the drug store for paregoric and florice, and the youngster somewhat startled the clerk by requesting a fifteen cent pair of garters and a necklace.—Pharmaceutical Era.

HATS. HATS.

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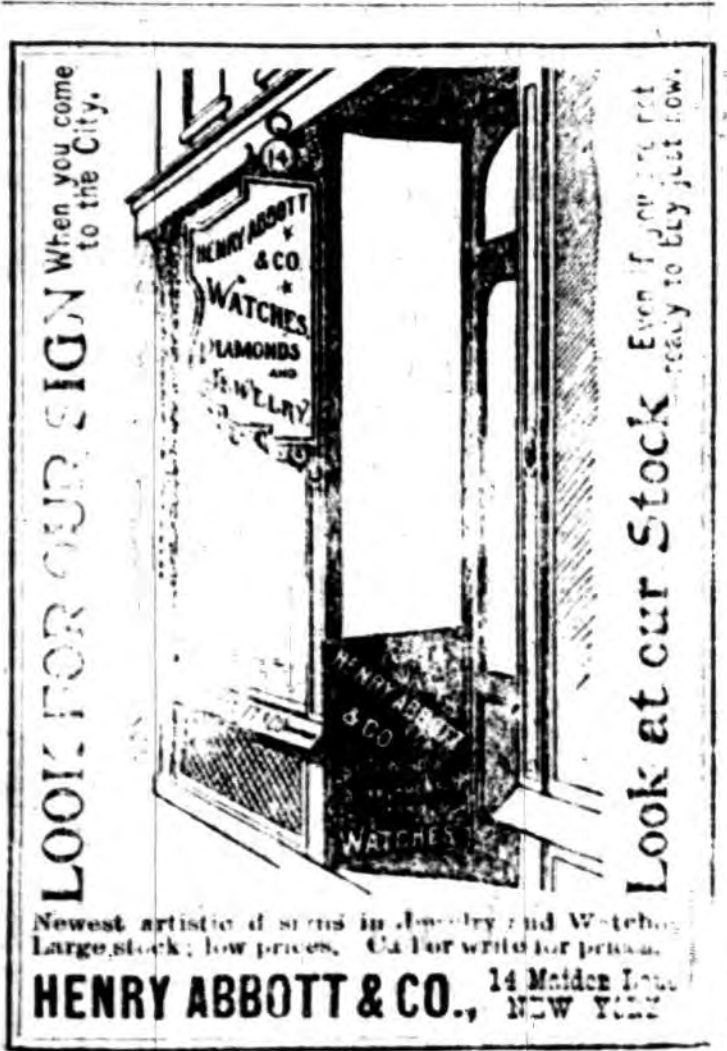
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An abstract of the Annual Report made January 1, 1892, to the Board of Control of the State of New Jersey, and filed in the Department of the Secretary of State in pursuance of law.

STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1892.

RESOURCES.

Bonds and mortgages. \$158,400.00

Real Estate. 3,000.00

U. S. and other bonds. 31,984.00

Interest due and accrued. 4,940.02

Office furniture, etc. 500.00

Cash in bank and office. 19,975.57

\$217,899.60

LIABILITIES.

Due depositors (including interest). \$200,307.94

Surplus. 17,591.66

\$217,899.60

Interest is credited to depositors on the first days of January and July in each year for the three and six months then ending. Deposits made on or before the first business day in January, April, July, and October, bear interest from the first day of the month. All interest when credited at once becomes principal and bears interest accordingly.

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